Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2130

UNCLAS BANGKOK 20725

PLEASE PASS AID, US CUSTOMS

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SREF TH

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: CUSTOMS ADVISORY TEAM

REF: A. STATE 229383 B. BANGKOK 20006 C. BANGKOK A-208 D. BANGKOK 14935

- 1. AS A RESULT OF CUSTOMS PROJECT EVALUATION IN MARCH 1975, MISSION HAS BEEN CONSIDERING POSSIBLE SHIFTS IN ADVISORY TEAM SIZE AND COMPOSITION. REF. D, PARA 4, DATED JULY 23 INDICATED MISSION CONSIDERING CONTINUATION OF TWO FULLTIME ADVISORS. FINAL DETERMINATION HAD NOT BEEN MADE WHEN REF C SUBMITTED, SO FULL FUNDING FOR THREE ADVISORS INCLUDED.
- 2. RTG CUSTOMS AND THE CUSTOMS PROJECT HAVE UNDERGONE DRAMATIC CHANGE IN THE PAST TWO YEARS. FOR EXAMPLE:
 (1) THE FOCUS OF USG ASSISTANCE HAS NARROWED FROM THE ORIGINAL GENERAL CUSTOMS IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVE; (2) THE NEW CUSTOMS DG IS ENERGETICALLY ADDRESSING PROBLEMS AND MAKING CHANGES; (3) THE MARINE PROGRAM AND ESPECIALLY MAINTENANCE HAS SHOWN SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT; AND (4) THE DG STATED RECENTLY THAT RTG CUSTOMS PRIMARY OBJECTIVE HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM REVENUE COLLECTION TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.
- 3. RTG CUSTOMS HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN, DESIRES AND AGREES FULLY WITH DECISION TO CHANGE TO TWO FULL-TIME ADVISORS SUPPORTED BY UNCLASSIFIED

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SEVERAL SHORT-TERM SPECIALISTS. IN A LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 18,

1975, RTG CUSTOMS DG STATED THAT IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO THEM TO CONTINUE ASSISTANCE IN THE MARINE AREA WITH TDY SPECIALISTS. TWO FULL-TIME ADVISORS WOULD ASSIST WITH OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS, LONG-RANGE PLANNING, PERSONNEL UTILIZATION, ENFORCEMENT AND INSPECTION PROCEDURES.

4. PER REF. B, MANAGEMENT/TRAINING AND MARINE POSITIONS WILL BE DROPPED WITH INCUMBENTS DEPARTURES. CUSTOMS OPERATIONS POSITION WILL CONTINUE. MISSION IS WORKING WITH RTG CUSTOMS AND USCS ADVISORY TEAM TO DEVELOP SCOPE OF WORK FOR NEW SECOND FULL-TIME POSITION. WE WILL ADVISE WHEN DETAILS HAVE BEEN WORKED OUT AND DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS/BACKGROUND ARE KNOWN.

MASTERS

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Message Attributes

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